

SECRET

no 201
Subject: VAGULKA, Bohumlav ; Czech student in Columbia University.

Source: SA AGCASSIDORARY/57

Date: 17 Dec. 1965

1. Meeting took place on 16 Dec. Held at party given in International House for persons involved with the student of film "All That Fall". Source was introduced to Subject by a friend of Source.
2. Subject is a student of cinematography at Columbia University. He is in the USA on a two year visa. Married to an Icelandic girl, no children. Subject is not sure that he wants to return to Czechoslovakia after his visa expires, but would like to work in the USA for a while. Subject is app. 29-30 years old, 180 lbs, 5'7" height, stocky built. Very pleasant and outgoing personality, likes to talk about politics and does not try to hide his hatred for Russians and the USSR. Nationality Czech. Studied in Prague. Speaks Russian fairly well, and English poorly. (conversation was held in Russian.)
3. Subject seemed to be fairly well acquainted with the Nationality problem in the USSR, said that only recently he began interesting himself in this field. In school in Czechoslovakia, Subject said that the USSR was always presented as one nation, Russia. But eventually he learned that it was composed of many different nationalities. About Ukraine he learned from the films of DOVZENKO, and from exchange students in Prague that were Ukrainian. These students explained that Ukraine was a separate nation, with a separate culture and language.
4. Politically subject regards the policy of the USSR as one of imperialism. Said that Ukraine is a colony of Moscow. Protested against Russification of Ukraine and other Union republics. Subject mentioned that in the USSR the first consideration in foreign policy was propagation of Russia, its culture and language. Communism and Socialism plays a much smaller role. In the future Subject believes that the USSR will have to become a federation of separate and ~~independent~~ states. There is too

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much isolation from the western world. In the USSR at the present. Subject agreed with Source that every nation has a right to its own independence, and the right to develop its culture. Subject mentioned that he knew that Ukrainians frequently protest against "collectivization" in Ukraine, and that they have a just right in doing so. He compared Ukraine to Czechoslovakia saying that Czechoslovakia is an independent nation, while Ukraine, although it is big and strong is still a colony.

5. About the political situation in Czechoslovakia, Subject was hesitant to talk, said that the economy is in a state of crisis, and requires new economic reforms in the near future. Looked upon the present system with disdain, joking about the fact that it is now "collective".

6. Praised SOLZHENITSYN for his book "One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich", said that the author was a Russian patriot and nationalist. Had heard about "MOLCHANIYE" a very long time ago 1964 but did not read it. said that he wants to do so one day.

7. Subject asked Source to visit him again, and that it was interesting talking with him.

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